

ventures to say that typhoid fever is incurable, and why should one contest the cure of tuberculosis? The experiments mentioned by Adami in the *MONTREAL MEDICAL JOURNAL* are perhaps the most convincing proofs that tuberculosis is absolutely curable. Virulent tubercle bacilli were injected into the peritoneal cavity of dogs. Some weeks later, on opening the abdomen, the peritoneum was found to be studded with miliary tubercles. The cavity was then closed and some weeks later again opened. It was then found that the tubercles had absolutely disappeared.

One is liable to ask:—Are these “cures” mentioned in the tables of statistics of a permanent character? In 1886, Dettweiler published a report of 702 cases completely cured of a duration of three to nine years. In the *Practitioner* for Feb., 1899, Trudeau gives the number of patients who received injections of Koch’s tuberculin. These patients were distributed over a period of seven years, and on their departure from the sanatorium were all classed as “apparently cured.” Some have not been traced, but of those that have, 67 per cent. are at present well and have not had a relapse.

From the facts I am about to mention, I am sure you will agree with me that it is the imperative duty of the large cities and of the state to establish both consumptive hospitals and consumptive sanatoria for the poor. I wish first to call your attention to what Ransome says in his Milroy lectures on the Etiology and Prevention of Phthisis, published in the London *Lancet* of March 8, 1890.

“Tuberculosis at the present day carries off annually nearly 70,000 persons in England at the ages of between 15 and 45,—the most useful stage of human existence. It kills more than one-third of the people who die, and nearly one-half between 15 and 35; moreover, in its prolonged and painful course, it either prevents its victims from earning a livelihood, or, at least, interferes greatly with their daily work. The habit of seizing upon the flower of the population; its slow but almost certain progress towards death: the utter misery of the last few months or weeks of existence; all these are features in the fell disorder that renders its study all important, not only to medical men but also to statesmen and to all who are concerned in the welfare of the nation.” The question of the loss to the state from the large number of deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis has not received the consideration at the hands of physicians and political economists which it should. The labor of every producer has a certain average value annually to the state. Estimates of this value vary from \$780.00 to \$2,000.00. Chadwick considers an English laborer equivalent to a permanent deposit of \$980.00. Farr gives \$780.00 as the average value